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(54) Title: METHOD AND SYSTEM PERTAINING TO THE LOCATION OF DIGITAL ENCODING INFORMATION

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VIDEO/AUDIO FORMAT	BANDWIDTH	AVAILABLE TIME TO RECORD	
DV	31.74 Mbits/s	1 hours	54 minutes
MPEG-II	2 Mbits/s	30 hours	1 minutes
MPEG-II	4 Mbits/s	15 hours	1 minutes
MPEG-II	6 Mbits/s	10 hours	0 minutes
MPEG-II	8 Mbits/s	7 hours	30 minutes
MPEG-II	10 Mbits/s	6 hours	0 minutes
MPEG-II full ATSC HD	19.39 Mbits/s	3 hours	6 minutes
MiniDisk	1.23 Mbits/s	48 hours	49 minutes
CD	2.56 Mbits/s	23 hours	27 minutes

(57) Abstract: A method and system locating contents of a recorded digital audio/video file without knowing its encoding format. It can be implemented on a disk drive, or on any suitable storage mechanism. A bus timer periodically generates a cycle (10) count in synchronization with isochronous packets that are also on the bus. The disk drive stores both the current cycle count and the current digital packet together on a storage media. When the cycle count value reaches a predetermined number of increments, a second measure is incremented thereby updating a minute and hour measure. The updated hour/minute/second value is stored in an entry of an index table along with the logical block address (LBA) of the currently stored data packet. This continues until the file is completely recorded. Retrieval of a particular hour/minute/second of the file can then be readily accomplished by referencing the index table and obtaining the appropriate LBA without requiring knowledge of the particular encoding format used by the file.



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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

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A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC 7 G11B27/034 H04N5/781 H04N5/00 G11B27/32 G11B27/10
G11B20/12

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC 7 G11B H04N H04L

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	EP 0 899 964 A (MATSUSHITA ELECTRIC IND CO LTD) 3 March 1999 (1999-03-03) the whole document ---	1, 3, 4, 7, 8, 12, 16, 17, 20, 21, 23, 24, 26
P, A	WO 00 52693 A (GESTEL WILHELMUS J VAN ;KONINKL PHILIPS ELECTRONICS NV (NL)) 8 September 2000 (2000-09-08) the whole document ---	1, 3, 4, 7, 8, 10, 12, 16, 17, 20, 21, 23, 24, 26
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Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

Patent family members are listed in annex.

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C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	<p>DE 195 39 400 A (MITSUBISHI ELECTRIC CORP) 30 May 1996 (1996-05-30)</p> <p>column 44, line 66 -column 54, line 5; figures 22-27</p> <p style="text-align: center;">---</p>	<p>1, 3, 7, 8, 12, 17, 18, 21, 24, 25</p>
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A	<p>US 5 844 478 A (BRIDGEWATER KEVIN ELLIOTT ET AL) 1 December 1998 (1998-12-01)</p> <p>the whole document</p> <p style="text-align: center;">---</p>	<p>1-3, 7, 8, 12, 16, 17, 21, 23, 24</p>
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